

True Detective Stories

THE BOMB PLOT

TAP—Tap—Tap!

The knocking at the door of the house occupied by Charles von Kleist, in Brooklyn, was not peremptory, nor yet did it savor of stealthiness. During the silence which followed, the two men on the doorstep looked at each other inquiringly.

"Tap—tap—tap, they knocked again. Slowly, silently, the door swung open and, from the inner recesses of a pitch-black hall, came a voice which inquired, in guttural German:

"Who are you, and what do you want?"

"We come from the Wolf," was the reply. "He said that you would know what we wanted."

"From the Wolf?" echoed the voice from within. "How do I know that you are not wolves yourselves? How—"

"This'll prove who we are," interrupted the man who had previously spoken, producing a card and slipping it past the stout chain which guarded the door. "Read and act," he continued, still in German.

A moment later the chain had been removed and the two men, their coats pulled high, entered the darkened hall. Not until the old man had refastened the door and proceeded then into a room where the tightly closed shutters effectually prevented any spying from the outside, did he again address them. When he did speak, it was meekly to inquire their names.

"Barnitz," replied one of the men—the one who had carried on the conversation from the outside.

"Barth," said the other.

"Barnitz," the old man repeated repetitively. "That is a name of the Netherlands, a good name. But Barth? I know it not. Is it not English?"

"American," corrected the first of the strangers. "It would not do to use the name of our citizens in this plan. It would cause suspicion. We must use all kinds of people—that's how we fool these Yankees! Besides, should you doubt, there is the card from the Wolf. That bears both names."

"That is so," agreed the German, "and Von Igel is not one to take any chances. He is too close to Von Papen. Now what were you sent here for?"

"The Wolf wishes to be assured that everything is going smoothly."

Then, after a moment's hesitation, during which he studied Von Kleist's face very carefully: "Have you completed the bombs?"

"A few only. It will be simple to make the others. Come, I will show you."

Through the winding, labyrinthine passages of the old house the German led them, and then out into the back yard—a tiny plot of ground barely a few feet square.

"As you will note," he said, "we cannot overlook from any of the surrounding houses."

The man called Barth, glancing up, saw that the German was right. Only bare walls of warehouses frowned down upon them. As he looked, however, he seemed to catch a queer glint from one of the nearby roofs—a glint of sunlight refracted from a binocular glass.

After he had removed three tulip bulbs, planted in a straight line, as if to mark a certain spot, Von Kleist produced a small oblong box, black and ornate.

"This," he said, motioning them back into the house, "is the only one I have ready for use. The ones I shall show you in the cellar—in order that you may tell the Wolf just how his plans are being carried out—are merely the decoys. But this one—Doctor Scheele turned over to me as a sample. Careful! Don't drop it!"

There were several of these on the mantelpiece, and when the news of her destruction first arrived I thought that my handiwork was responsible. But the honor was not mine, unfortunately. There are also similar bombs planted on the Friedrich Der Grosse, in case these Yankees ever attempt to seize property. The moment they start engines, that moment they start bombs! Yes," concluded the old man, "you can tell the Wolf that his plans are being well carried out. Kar Schmidt, Paradis and Praedel according to the ones on the ship, Scheele and Becker on land."

"Splendid!" exclaimed Barnitz. "The chief will be delighted to hear this. Why not come with us now and tell him about it?"

Thinking, of course, that his visitor referred to Wolf von Igel, Kleist readily agreed, and it was not until their taxicab stopped in front of police headquarters that he sensed anything wrong. Before he knew it he was being walked into the office of inspector Thomas J. Tunney, with a gun in his ribs.

"Chief," cried Barnitz, "that card turned the trick! You'll have to get a pardon for the scratcher. Anyone who can forge Von Igel's writing as cleverly as that doesn't deserve to be in jail. We not only nailed the old bird, but we implicated half a dozen others. Sometimes it pays to have a German and be able to speak the language."

At the bomb plot, designed to destroy half the shipping in New York City, didn't officially end until Kleist and Schmidt were sent to Atlanta for two years each, while Becker, Paradis, Praedel and Karbode drew six months and a \$500 fine.

True Detective Stories

TEN YEARS LATER

ONE of the first acts of William J. Flynn after taking charge of the New York office of the United States secret service was to order the arrest of two Italians, Vincenzo Lupo and Giuseppe Morello, on charges of manufacturing and passing counterfeit money. But the Sicilians, anticipating such a move, had taken care that their trails were well covered, and at the trial they produced a flock of witnesses who swore to alibis which effectually prevented a conviction.

As Morello and his companion passed out of the courtroom, after the case against them had been dismissed, Lupo remarked in a voice loud enough for Flynn to overhear: "Those pigs of American detectives haven't the brains to get the evidence they need. They'll never land us."

The man who later became the head of the secret service said nothing at the time.

It was three years before Flynn again came into contact with the two Italians, and again the federal forces had to be content with the losing end of the argument.

This time the case was the famous one of the "Morristown Fives"—five-dollar bills printed in precise imitation of the currency issued by the National Iron bank of Morristown, N. J. Flynn's men found that the trail led directly into "Little Italy" in New York, right up to the door of a grocery store owned by Giuseppe De Primo. But there, apparently, it disappeared into thin air.

Flynn investigated the matter very carefully from the outside, but the only suspicious circumstance that he could discover was that De Primo was importing a much larger quantity of olive oil than his business appeared to warrant. On account of the duty, olive oil is usually imported in barrels and then canned or bottled on this side—the empty cans being shipped from Italy ready for use.

Feeling certain that there must be some connection between the olive oil and the mysterious counterfeits, Flynn first tapped several of the barrels consigned to De Primo. But these were filled to the brim with oil of the precise quality mentioned in the bills of lading. Then, merely to make certain that he had not neglected any possible angle of the case, the secret service man ripped open one of the boxes of "empty cans." Instantly the mystery was solved. The cans contained roll upon roll of the "Morristown Fives," manufactured in Italy.

In the roundup which followed this discovery, Lupo and Morello were gathered in by the government agents and charged with passing counterfeit money. It was a moral certainty that the two Sicilians had had a hand in the plot—in fact, Flynn suspected that they were the ring-leaders—but none of the others would implicate them, even to save themselves. De Primo and his associates went to the penitentiary, but Lupo and Morello walked out of the courtroom still sneering at the "brainless American detectives."

During the years that followed, counterfeiting operations and Black Hand murders, extortion and blackmail of all kinds were almost traced to Lupo and Morello—almost. Apparently they worked as far west as Chicago and south to New Orleans, but every time the police or the government agents started to close in on them, the pair slipped out through some legal loophole prepared in advance.

It was nine years after the original Lupo-Morello case that Flynn got wind of the fact that the Italian colony in New York was planning a big counterfeiting coup. The only thing lacking, according to the information which reached government headquarters, was a printer.

A few days later, a young Italian named Comito, who claimed to be a printing expert who had been forced to leave Italy on account of participation in a number of Mafia outrages, applied to Lupo for a position. The recruit was put through a grilling cross-examination, but Flynn had seen to it that he was supplied with the proper answers to all the questions, and it wasn't long before the secret service had an operative planted in the very heart of the counterfeit plot.

Comito reported that the gang was operating from a small farm near Highland, N. Y., and that thousands of dollars in spurious currency was ready to be released.

"But Lupo," he added, "is preparing to take a trip to Italy and won't be back until the spring."

"Very well," replied Flynn, "we can wait. Just lay low until he returns. Then we'll nail the whole bunch."

It was early in the following year—ten years after the first arrest and release of the Lupo-Morello combination—that the secret service sprung its trap and rounded up 16 Italians. During the trial which followed, physicians and other witnesses swore to alibis which had been previously prepared. But the government, aided by Comito's first-hand evidence and the testimony of the men who had been trailing the Italians, proved every point in its case, though it took the evidence of 300 people to do it.

As a result, Lupo and Morello went to the federal prison in Atlanta for 25 years, and Flynn was well satisfied with the 150 per cent interest upon his original investment of ten years' work.

New Year's in Egypt

IF A group of people were shipwrecked or otherwise cast upon their own resources and were to lose track of the date they would have no easy means of finding it again. Our year is an artificial one, and so must be made by careful study in well equipped observatories. Without precise instruments it would be difficult to fix the day when the new year begins.

The ancient Egyptians experienced no such difficulty. Their year, from which ours is derived, had a perfectly natural beginning. It always commenced on the day when Sirius and the sun rose together.

The temples of Egypt were really observatories, built to face this or that star as it rose. They were more or less elaborate, but all had as their fundamental plan a long narrow passage down which the star's rays came, and a dark chamber at the far end where the priest made the observation and where the image was kept.

The beginning of the new year was an important event. We can picture the scene as the priests, followed by the scribes, lawyers, merchants, and the curious crowd, wind their way up to the temple in the first streaks of dawn, and take their appointed places. As daylight comes on the interest of everyone is centered on two groups.

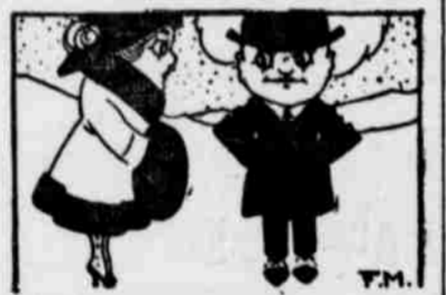
The priests on the roof are straining their eyes for the first glimpse of the coming sun, while those down in the dark chamber are watching for Sirius. Soldiers are stationed around the temple to keep the crowd silent and to prevent stragglers from crossing the path of the star's rays in front of the temple door at the critical moment.

A short burst from those on the roof as the sun tops the horizon. The observers below watch their water clocks carefully now as the minutes are told off, and strain their eyes at the narrow opening where Sirius is to shine. In a few moments Sirius itself flashes into view, and the new year has begun.

The Egyptians discovered that the year has an extra quarter of a day in it. They did it by noting that on some years Sirius and the sun rose almost together, while on others there was an appreciable difference in time, and that these changes repeated themselves every five years. They found the length of the year to within 11 minutes of its true value, which was a remarkable thing to do with the primitive appliances they had at hand.

NEW YEAR'S THEN AND NOW.

As long as people can remember, there have been New Year parties. The old Romans gave theirs in honor of Janus, the two-faced god. One face looked back at the old, spent year, and one face looked forward to the new, fresh year. They gave presents to him and to each other with the hope that the new year would be good to them. Some of the people who lived long ago waited until the end of March to celebrate the New Year, since that was the time that the trees and grass began new life.



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

"Are you making any good resolutions for New Year's Day?"

"No, I haven't had time to break all my last New Year's ones yet."

A GOOD RESOLUTION.

A good resolution is the offspring of remorse and regret, who were wedded by experience.



Careless With Money

Few men are careless with actual cash; but many men do not stop to think that the checks and notes they give out represent money and that fraudulent alteration of a check may mean a serious loss. Protect yourself by using paper that betrays alteration—

Paper. We can tell you more about it and show you how we can protect your cash, your checks, notes, drafts, and receipts.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having been duly and legally appointed administrator of the estate of H. H. Minchey, deceased, late of Jackson County, Tennessee, I, Willie O. Minchey, administrator of said deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having accounts and demands against said estate to file same with the County Court Clerk of Jackson County, Tennessee, on or before the 2nd day of May 1922.

(Acts of 1921)

Also all persons indebted to the estate of H. H. Minchey, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate settlement with me.

This 2nd day of Jan. 1922.

Willie O. Minchey, Admr.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having been duly and legally appointed administrator of the estate of A. J. Carter, deceased, late of Jackson County, Tennessee, I, M. A. Carter, administrator of said deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having accounts and demands against said estate to file same with the County Court Clerk of Jackson County, Tennessee, on or before the 23rd day of July 1922.

(Acts of 1921)

Also, all persons indebted to the estate of A. J. Carter, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate settlement with me.

This 2nd day of Jan. 1922.

M. A. Carter, Admr.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having been duly and legally appointed administrator of G. C. Holland, deceased, late of Jackson County, Tennessee, I, W. L. Dixon, administrator of said deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having accounts and demands against said estate to file same with the County Court Clerk of Jackson County, Tennessee, on or before the 14th day of November 1922.

(Acts of 1921)

Also, all persons indebted to the estate of G. C. Holland, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate settlement with me.

This 2nd day of January 1922.

W. L. Dixon, Admr.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having been duly and legally appointed administrator of the estate of Eldon P. Draper, deceased, late of Jackson County, Tennessee, I, Zora Draper, administratrix of said deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having accounts and demands against said estate, to file same with the County Court Clerk of Jackson County, Tennessee, on or before the 28th day of October 1922.

(Acts of 1921)

Also, all persons indebted to the estate of Eldon P. Draper, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate settlement with me.

This 2nd day of Jan. 1922.

Mrs. Zora Draper, Admr.

CREDITORS' NOTICE.

To all of the creditors of R. P. Smith, merchant, Hilham, Tennessee, RFD, 2, you are hereby notified to come forward and file your account with me as Trustee, under a deed of assignment made by the said R. P. Smith to me for the benefit of his creditors. I have disposed of the property conveyed to me by said deed of assignment and now hold said funds subject to distribution among all of his said creditors. All claim that are not filed with me within the time specified by law for the filing of said claims after notice has been given, will be forever barred. This January 6, 1922.

Caroline Ellis, Trustee.



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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having been duly and legally appointed administrator of the estate of W. H. Toney, deceased, late of Jackson County, Tennessee, I, W. F. Dodson, administrator of said deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having accounts and demands against said estate to file same with the County Court Clerk of Jackson County, Tennessee, on or before the 30th day of December 1922.

(Acts of 1921)

Also all persons indebted to the estate of W. H. Toney, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate settlement with me.

This 2nd day of January 1922.

W. F. Dodson, Admr.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having been duly and legally appointed administrator of the estate of M. F. Spurlock, deceased, late of Jackson County, Tennessee, I, Franklin Spurlock, administrator of said deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having accounts and demands against said estate to file same with the County Court Clerk of Jackson County, Tennessee, on or before the 21st day of December 1922.

(Acts of 1921)

Also all persons indebted to the estate of M. F. Spurlock, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate settlement with me.

This 2nd day of January 1922.

Franklin Spurlock, Admr.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having been duly and legally appointed administrator of the estate of Jas L. Young, deceased, late of Jackson County, Tennessee, I, J. H. Saaford, administrator of said deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having accounts and demands against said estate to file same with the County Court Clerk of Jackson County, Tennessee, on or before the 9th day of December 1922.

(Acts of 1921)

Also all persons indebted to the estate of Jas L. Young, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate settlement with me.

This 2nd day of January 1922.

J. H. Stafford, Admr.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having been duly and legally appointed administrator of Jas W. Stafford, deceased, late of Jackson County, Tennessee, I, E. L. Dudley, administrator of said deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having accounts and demands against said estate to file same with the County Court Clerk of Jackson County, Tennessee, on or before the 16th day of November 1922.

(Acts of 1921)

Also all persons indebted to the estate of Jas W. Stafford, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate settlement with me.

This 2nd day of January 1922.

E. L. Dudley, Admr.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having been duly and legally appointed administrator of the estate of J. E. Hammond, deceased, late of Jackson County, Tennessee, I, J. R. Hammond, administrator of said deceased, hereby give notice to all persons having accounts and demands against said estate to file same with the County Court Clerk of Jackson County, Tennessee, on or before the 14th day of November 1922.

(Acts of 1921)

Also all persons indebted to the estate of J. E. Hammonds, deceased, are hereby requested to make immediate settlement with me.

This 2nd day of January 1922.

J. R. Hammond, Admr.

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, office of Collector of Internal Revenue, Dec 31, 1921—The following described property, seized of W. J. Mansel et al, under Warrant of Distraint for non-payment of taxes due, will be sold at public auction, as provided by Section No. 3190, Revised Statute of the United States, on Wednesday January 25th, at 12:30 p. m. in front of the Store of W. D. West, known as the Stafford place. Said property consists of 70 acres of land, situated and being in the 9th Civil District of Jackson County, and described as follows: A certain tract of land containing seventy acres more or less, and bounded on the north by lands of P. Chaffin; on South by lands of John Martin, East by lands of Ben Hensley, and on West by Morrison's Creek.

J. E. Oliver, Deputy Collector.

AUCTIONEER VON RAY

Graduate Missouri Auction School. Sells anything, anywhere for the high dollar. Address me at **PORTLAND, TENN.** for dates and terms.

LAND SALE.

E. O. Smith vs Bob Hamlet.

In Circuit Court at Gainesboro, Tennessee.

In obedience to a decree of the Circuit Court at Gainesboro, Tennessee, at the November term 1921, in the above styled cause, I will on Saturday the 28th day of January, 1922, in front of the east door of the courthouse in Gainesboro, Tennessee sell to the highest and best bidder, the reversionary interests in the lands of Bob Hamlet, lying and being in the 6th civil district of Jackson County, Tennessee, and bounded as follows:

Beginning on a sassafras corner made by W. R. Whetstone and W. R. Dennis, running thence north down a log road with Russ Kinnard's line to a black walnut; thence north of Kinnard to a chestnut oak; thence down the hill to a sourwood on the bank of a branch; thence south with a line between W. C. Heady and the said Hamlet; thence south to a stooping beech, something near the middle, thence southward to a beech on the south side of the hill to a large beech in the fence; thence south to a corner at the public road; thence running with the public road to the beginning, containing by estimation 24 acres, more or less.

Sale will be made within legal hours and for cash.

This Dec. 30th, 1921.

J. M. Spurlock Shff.

LAND SALE.

Joe Maddux vs Joe Davenport.

In Circuit Court at Gainesboro, Tennessee.

In obedience to a decree of the Circuit Court at Gainesboro, Tennessee, made at the November term 1921 in the above styled cause, I will, on Saturday, January 28th, 1922, in front of the east courthouse door in Gainesboro, Tennessee, sell to the highest and best bidder the following described tracts of land:

1st. Tract. Lying and being in the 4th civil district of Jackson County, Tennessee, and bounded on north by lands of Hix, south by Carver, east by Russell, and west by Carver, containing 2 acres.

2nd Tract. Lying and being in the 3rd civil district of Jackson County, Tennessee, bounded on the North by Cox, South by Johnson, East by Cox, West by Carver, containing about 45 acres.

This land will be sold subject to the homestead right of defendant.

Sale will be made within legal hours and for cash.

This Dec. 30th, 1921.

J. M. Spurlock, Shff.

LAND SALE.

W. A. Strong vs Warren Lynn.

In Circuit Court at Gainesboro, Tennessee.

In obedience to a decree of the Circuit Court at Gainesboro, Tennessee, made at the November term, 1921, in the above styled cause, I will on Saturday the 28th day of January, 1922, in front of the east door of the court house in Gainesboro, Tennessee sell to the highest and best bidder, the following described tract of land:

Lying and being in the 13th civil district of Jackson county, Tennessee, bounded on the north, by Hawkins, east by Birdwell, south by Birdwell, west by the lands of Hix, containing 50 acres more or less.

This land will be sold subject to the homestead rights.

Sale will be made within legal hours, and for cash.

This Dec. 31, 1922

J. M. Spurlock, Shff.

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

Lizzie Davenport vs Mart Woods.

In this case, upon levy of a judicial attachment ordered by Judge C. E. Snodgrass in the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Tennessee, and, it appearing, that, defendant, Mart Woods is a non resident of the State of Tennessee, or, so, conceals himself that, ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him, it is ordered, that said defendant make his appearance in said Court in this cause on the 3rd Monday in March, next, it being the 20th day of March 1922, and make defenses as to said attachment writ or the same will be set for hearing ex parte.

It is further ordered, that, this order be published in the Jackson County Sentinel a newspaper published in said county at Gainesboro, Tennessee, for four consecutive weeks as provided by law.

This January 9th, 1922.

J. L. Reeves, Clerk.